THE BARTHOLDI STATUS. With France, the traditional cordial onship continues. The colossal statue of Liberty Enlightening the World, the generous gift of the people of France, is expected to reach New York in May next. I suggest that congressional action be taken in recognition of the spirit which has prompted this gift, and in aid of the timely completion of the pedestal upon which it is to be placed. NEED FOR AN EXTRADITION TREATY WITH GERMANY.

Our relations with Germany, a country which contributes to our own some of the hest elements of citizenship, continue to be cordial. The United States have extradition treaties with several of the German states, but by reason of the confederation of those states under the imperial rule, the application of such treaties is not as uniform and comprehensive as the interests of the two countries require. propose, therefore, to open negatiations for a single convention of extradition to embrace all the territory of the empire.

AT PRACE WITH GREAT BRITAIN. It allords me pleasure to say that our intercourse with Great Britain continues to be of a most friendly character.

THE TREATY WITH HAWAIL The government of Hawaii has indicated its willingness to continue for seven years the provisions of the existing reci-procity treaty. Such continuance, in view of the relations of that country to the American system of states, should, in my judgment, be favored.

PEACE IN HAYTL

The revolution in Hayti against the established government has terminated. While it was in progress it became necessary to enforce our neutrality laws by instituting proceedings against individuals and vessels charged with their infringe-ment. These prosecutions were in all cases successful. THE TABIFF ON WORKS OF ART.

Much anxiety has lately been displayed by various European governments, and especially by the government of Italy for the abouttion of our import duties upon works of art., It is well to consider whether the present discrimination in favor of the productions of American artists abroad is not likely to result, as they themselves seem very generally to believe it may, in the practical exclusion of our painters and sculpters from the rich fields for observation, study, and labor which they have hitherto enjoyed.

TREATIES WITH JAPAN. There is prospect that the long-pending revision of the foreign treaties of Japan may be concluded at a new conference to be held at Tokio. While this government fully recognizes the equal and independent station of Japan in the community of nations, it would not oppose the gene-ral adoption of such terms of compromise as Japan may be disposed to offer in furtherance of a uniform policy of inter-course with western nations.

THE TREATY WITH MEXICO. During the past year the increasing good-will between our own government and that of Mexico has been variously manifested. The treaty of commercial reciprocity concluded Jan. 20, 1883, has been ratified, and awaits the necessary legislation of congress to become ve. This legislation will, I doubt effective. This logislation will, I doubt not, he among the first measures to claim your attention.

A full treaty of commerce, navigation, and consular rights is much to be desired. and such a treaty I have reason to believe that the Mexican government stands ready to conclude.

Some embarrassment has been occasioned by the failure of congress at its last session to provide means for the due execution of the treaty of July 29, 1882, for the resurvey of the Mexican boundary and the relocation of boundary mone

IMPORTANT TREATY WITH NICARAGUA NEGOTIATED.

With the republic of Nicaragua a treaty has been concluded which authorizes the construction by the United States of a canal, rallway, and telegraph line across the Nicaraguan territory.

By the terms of this treaty sixty miles of the river San Juan, as well as Lake

Nicaragua, an inland sea forty miles in width, are to constitute a part of the projected enterprise.
This leaves for actual canal construc-

tion seventeen miles on the Pacific side and thirty-six miles on the Atlantic. the United States, whose rich territory on the Pacific is for the ordin ry purposes of commerce practically cut off from communication by water with the Atlantic ports, the political and commercial advantages of such a project can scarcely be overestimated.

It is believed that when the treaty is laid before you the justice and liberality of its provisions will command universa approval at home and abroad.

BUSSIA. The death of our representative at Rus sia while at his post at St. Petersburg afforded to the Imperial government a renewed opportunity to testify its sym-pathy in a manner befitting the intimate friendliness which has ever marked the intercourse of the two countries.

SIAM The course of this government in raising its representation at Bangkok to the diplomatic rank has evoked from Siam evidences of warm friendship and augur well for our enlarged intercourse. The Siamese government has presented to the United States a commodious mass; in and grounds for the occupancy of the lega-tion, and I suggest that by joint resolu-

tion congress attest its appreciation this generous gift. THE CONVENTION WITH SPAIN.

This government has more than once been called upon of late to take action in fulfillment of its international obligations toward Spain. Agitation in the island of Cuba hostile to the Spanish grown having been fomented by persons abusing the sacred rights of hospitality which our ter ritory affords, the officers of this govern ment have been instructed to exercis vigilance to prevent infractions on neutrality laws at Key West and at points near the Cuban coast. I am i I am happy to say that in the only instance wher precautionary measures were successfully cluded, the offenders, when found in our territory, were subsequently tried and convicted. The growing need of close relationship

of intercourse and traffic between the Spanish Antilles and their natural mar-ket in the United States led to the adoption, in January last, of a commercial agreement looking to that end. This agreement has since been superseded by a more carefully framed and comprehen-sive convention, which I shall aubmit to the same for approval. It has been the sim of this negotiation to open such a fa-vorud reciprocal exchange of productions earried under the flag of either country, as to make the intercourse between Cuba and Porto Rico and ourselves scarcely less intimate than the commercial moves between our domestic ports, and to insure a removal of the burdens on shipping in the spanish Indies, of which in the past our ship-owners and ship-masters have so often had cause to complain.

The negotiation of this convention has or a time postponed the prosecution of estain claims of our citizens which were ac lared to be sithout the jurisdiction of the late Spanish-American claims com-mission, and which are therefore result-ted to diplomatic channels for adjust-ment. The speeds settlement of these claims will now be urged by this govern-

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Negotiations for a freaty of commorcial reciprocity with the Dominican republic have been successfully concluded, and the result will shortly be laid before the belinte.

QUESTIONS AT ISSUE WITH THE PORTE. Certain questions between the United States and the Ottoman empire still re-States and the Ottoman empire still re-main unsolved. Complaints on behalf of our citizens are not estimatorily ad-justed. The Porte has sought to withhold

the revision of the tariffs is unaccom-

VENEZURLA.

The final disposition of the pending questions with Venezuels has not as yet been reached, but I have good reason to expect an early settlement, which will provide the means of re-examining the Caracas awards in conformity with the expressed desire of congress, and which will recognize the justice of certain claims preferred against Venezuela.

SOUTH AMERICAN TRADE. The Central and South American commission appointed by authority of the act of July 7, 1884, will soon proceed to Mexico. It has been furnished with instructions which will be laid before you. They contain a statement of the general policy of the government for enlarging its commercial intercourse with Ameristates. The commissioners have a actively preparing for their respon-o task by holding conferences in the can states. principal cities with merchants and others interested in Central and South American trade.

THE MERIDIAN CONFESENCE. The international meridian conference lately convened in Washington upon the invitation of the government of the United States, was composed of representatives of twenty-five nations. The conference concluded its labors on the lat of November, having with substantial unanimity agreed upon the meridian of Greenwich as the starting point whence longitude is to be computed through 180° longitude is to be computed through 180° eastward and westward, and upon the adoption, for all purposes for which it may be found convenient, of a universal day which shall begin at midnight on the initial meridian, and whose hours shall be counted from zero up to twenty-four.
The formal report of the transactions of this conference will be hereafter transmitted to the congress.

INTERNATIONAL EXBIBITIONS. This government is in frequent receipt f invitations from foreign states to par-cipate in international exhibitions, often of great interest and importance. Occupy ing as we do an advanced position in the world's production, and aiming to secure a profitable share for our industries in the general competitive markets, it is a matter of serious concern that the want of means for participation in these exhi-bitions should so often exclude our pro-ducers from advantages enjoyed by those of other countries. During the past year the attention of congress was drawn to the formal invitations in this regard ten-dered by the governments of Eggland, Holland, Belgium, Germany, and Austria. The executive has, in some instances, appointed honorary commissioners. This is, however, a most unsatisfactory expedient, necessary working expenses of a commission, it can effect little or nothing in be-half of exhibitors. An international in-ventions exhibition is to be held in London next May. This will cover a field of special importance in which our country holds a foremost rank, but the executive is at present powerless to organize a proper representation of our vast national

interests in this direction. I have in several previous messages re-ferred to this subject. It seems to me that a statue, giving to the executive general discretionary authority to ac cept such invitations, and to appoint honorary commissioners, without salary, and placing at the disposal of the secre-tary of the states small fund for defraying their reasonable expenses, would be of great public utility.

COLLISIONS AT SEA.

This government has received official notice that the Revised International Regulations for preventing collisions at sea have been adopted by all the leading maritime powers except the United States, and came into force on the lat of September last. For the due protection of our statues should at once be brought into conformity with these regulations.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT The question of securing to authors, composors, and artists copyright privileges in this country in return for reciprocal rights abroad is one that may justly challenge your attention. It is true that conventions will be necessary for fully accomplishing this result, but for fully accomplishing this result, but until congress shall by statute fix the ex-tent to which foreign holders of copy-right shall be here privileged, it has been ned inadvisable to negotiate such ouventions. For this reason the United states were not represented at the recent VIOLATIONS OF THE NEUTRALITY LAWS.

I recommend that the scope of the neutrality laws of the United States be so enlarged as to cover all patent acts of hostility committed in our territory and aimed against the peace of a friendly nation. Existing statutes prohibit the attict the shipment of explosives, though the enactments in the latter respect were not framed with regard to international obligations, but simply for the protection of passenger travel. All these statutes were intended to meet special emer-gencies that had already arisen. Other emergencies have arisen since, and mod-ern legebuity supplies means for the or-ganization of hostilities without open re-sort to armed vessels or to fillbustering parties.

I see no reason why overt preparations in this country for the commission of criminal acts, such as are here under conderation, should not be alike punishable, whether such acts are intended to be committed in our own country or in a foreign country with which we are at

The prompt and thorough treatment of this question is one, which intimately con-cerus the national honor.

REVISION OF THE NATURALIZATION

Our existing naturalization laws also need revision. These sections relating to persons residing within the limits of the United State in 1795 and 1798 have now only a historical interest. Section 3172, recognizing the citizenship of the children or maturalized parents, is ambiguous in its terms and partly obsolete. There are special provisions of law favor ng the naturalization of those who serve n the army or in merchant vessels, while similar privileges are granted those shoserve in the navy or the marine

'An uniform rule of naturalization," such as the constitution contemplates, should, among other things, clearly define he status of persons born within the inited Status subject to a foreign power section 1992; and of minor children of athers who have declared their intention become citizens but have failed to perfeet their naturalization. It might be wise to provide for a central bureau of registry, wherein should be filed authenticated tran-scripts of every record of naturalization in the several federal and state courts, and make provision also for the vacation cancellation of such record in cases here fraud had been practiced upon the uvi by the applicant himself or where e had renounced or forfeited his acquired citizenship. A just and uniform law this respect would strengthen the hands of the government in protecting its citi-zens abroad, and would pave the way for the conclusion of treaties of naturaliza-

EMBARBASSMENTS IN OUR DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE.

tion with foreign countries.

The legislation of the last session effected in the diplomatic and consular service certain changes and reductions which have been productive of embar rassment. The population and commer cial activity of our country are steadily on the increase, and are giving rise to new, varying, and often delicate relationships with other countries. Our foreign establishment now embraces nearly double the area of operations that it oc-cupied twenty years ago. The confine-ment of such a service within the limits of expenditure then established is not, it sems to me, in accordance with true conomy. A community of sixty millions f people should be adequately repre-ented in its intercourse with foreign

A project for the reorganization of the consular service and for recasting the scheme of extraterritorial jurisdiction is now before you. If the limits of a short

needs of the service

DIPLOMATIC GRADES. It has been customary to define in the appropriation acts the rank of each diplo-matic effice to which a salary is attached. suggest that this course be abandoned and that it be left to the president, with the advice and consent of the senate, to fix from time to time the diplomatic grade of the representatives of this government abroad as may seem advisable, provision being made, however, as now for the amount of salary attached to the respective stations.

The Treasury. condition of our finances and the perations of the various branches of the public service which are connected with the treasury department are very fully discussed in the report of the secretary. It appears that the ordinary revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1884.

Total ordinary revenues....... 318,519,809 92

The public expenditures during the For civil expenses
For foreign intercourse.
For Indians.
For poissions
For the military establi ... 89,429,603 36

17,202,601 44 yards or miscellaneous expenditures including public buildings lightbouses, and collecting the revenue or expenditures on account of the District of Columbia...... 3,407,019 62 54,578,378 48 46,790,229 50 For interest on the public debt.
For the sinking fund......

Leaving a surplus of 57.603,308 o As compared with the preceding fiscal year there was a net decrease of over \$21,000,000 in the amount of expenditures. The aggregate receipts were less than The aggregate receipts were less than those of the year previous by about \$54,-000,000. The falling off in revenue from customs made up nearly \$20,000,000 of this deficiency, and about \$23,000,000 of the remainder was due to the diminished receipts from internal taxation.

Total ordinary expanditures... 290,916,478 83

The secretary estimates the total re-ceipts for the fiscal year which will end June 30, 1885, at \$330.00.0000, and the total expenditures at \$290.820.201.16, in which sum are included the interest on the debt and the amount payable to the sinking fund. This would leave a sur-plus for the entire year of about \$39,000,-

The value of exports from the United States to foreign countries during the year ending June 30, 1884, was as follows: Domestic merchandise.... Foreign merchandise..... Total merchandise

Total exports of merchandise 544.715, the provisions at \$114.416,547, and the mineral oils at \$47,103,248.

the mineral oils at \$47,103,248.

During the same period the imports were as follows: Gold and atlver

Total..... 703,123,935 More than 63 per cent, of the entire value of imported merchandise consisted of the following articles:

49,949,128 49,686,705 on and steel and manufactures ax, hemp, jute, and like sub-stances, and manufactures there 22,850,906

SILVER COINAGE. I concur with the secretary of the treastry in recommending the immediate sus-pension of the coinage of silver dollars and of the issuance of silver certificatea. This is a matter to which, in former com-munications, I have more than once in-voked the attention of the national legislature. It appears that annually for the past

six years there have been coined, in com-pliance with the requirements of the act 28, 1878, more than 27,000,000 silver dollars. The number now outstanding is reported by the secretary to be nearly 185,000,000, whereof but little more than 40,000,000, or less than 22 per cent, are in actual circulation. The merrepeal of the statute which has made such net possible. But there are other and graver consid-

erations that tend in the same direction.

The secretary avows his conviction that unless this coinage and the issueance of silver certificates be auspended, silver is likely at no distant day to become our sole metallic standard. The commercia sole metallic standard. The commercial disturbance and the impairment of ma-tional credit that would be thus occasioned

tional credit that would be thus occasioned can scarcely be overestimated.

I hope that the secretary's suggestions respecting the withdrawal from circulation of the \$1 and \$2 notes will receive your approval. It is likely that a considerable portion of the silver now encumbering the vaults of the treasury might thus find its way into the currency.

While trade dollars have ceased, for the present at least, to be an element of active present at least, to be an element of active

present at least, to be an element of active disturbance in our currency system, some provision should be made for their sur-render to the government. In view of the circumstances under which they were oined and of the fact that they have

coined and of the fact that they have never had a legal tender quality, there should be effered for them only a slight advance ever their bullion value.

The sucretary, in the course of his report, considers the propriety of beautifying the designs of our subsidiary silver coins and of so increasing their weight that they may bear their due ratio of value to the standard dellar. His reader value to the standard dollar. His conclu ons in this regard are cordially approved

In my annual message of 1882 I conded the abolition of all excise except those relating to distilled spirits This recommendation is now renewed n case these taxes shall be abolished the revenues that will still remain to the government will, in my opinion, not only suffice to meet its reasonable expenditures, but will afford a surplus large enough to permit such tariff reduction as may seem to be aivisable, when the results of recent revenue laws and commercial treaties hall have shown in what quarters those reductions can be most judiciously of-

One of the gravest of the problems which ppeal to the wisdom of congress for soluion is the ascertainment of the effective means for increasing our foreign trade and thus relieving the depression under which our industries are now lan-guishing. The secretary of the treasury silvises that the duty of investigating this subject be intrusted in the first instance to a competent commission. While fully recognizing the considerations that may be urged against this course, I am, never-theless, of the opinion that, upon the whole, no other would be likely to effect

codier or better results.

That portion of the secretary's report which concerns the condition of our shipping interests cannot fall to command your attention. He emphatically recom-nends that as an incentive to the investment of American capital in American steamships, the government shall by liberal payments for mail transportation, or otherwise, lend its active assistance to individual enterprise, and declares his beiof that unless that course be pursued our foreign carrying trade must remain, as it is to-day, almost exclusively in the hands of foreigners. One phase of this subject is now espec-

fally prominent, in view of the repeal by the act of June 26, 1884, of all statutory provisions afoltrarily compelling American vessels to carry the mails to and from the United States. As it is necessive. sary to make provision to compensate the

make suitable provision for the present sideration that will lead to the enactment of such measures for the revival of our merchant marine as the wisdom of congross may davise.

THREATENED CONTRACTION OF THE

THREATENED CONTRACTION OF THE CURRENCY.

The 3 per cent, bonds of the government to the amount of more than \$100,-000,000 have, since my last annual message, been redoemed by the treasury. The bonds of that issue still outstanding amount to little over \$200,000,000, about one-fourth of which will be retired through the operations of the sinking fund during the coming year. As these bonds still constitute the chief basis for the circulation of the national hards. the circulation of the national banks, the question how to avert the contraction

of the currency, caused by their retire

ment, is one of constantly increasing im ertance. It seems to be generally conceded that the law governing this matter exacts from the banks excessive security, and that, upon their present bond deposits a larger circulation than is now allowed may be grauted with safety. I hope that the bill which passed the senate at the last session, permitting the issue of notes equal to the face value of the deposited boals, will command itself to the ap-proval of the house of representatives.

The War Department.
In the expenses of the war department the secretary reports a decrease of more than \$9,000,000. Of this reduction \$5,-600,000 was effected in the expenditures for rivers and harbors and \$2,700,000 in expenditures for the quartermaster's de-

artment.
Ontside of that department the annual expenses of all the army bureaus proper (except possibly the ordnance bureau) are substantially fixed charges, which can not be materially diminished without a change in the numerical strength of the army. The expenditures in the the army. The expenditures in the quartermaster's department can readily be subjected to administrative discretion, and it is reported by the secretary of war and it is reported by the secretary of war and it is reported. that as a result of exercising such discretion, in reducing the number of draught and pack animals in the army, the annual cost of supplying and caring for such animals is now \$1,108,085,90 less than it was in 1881.

The reports of military commanders show that the last year has been notable for its entire freedom from Indian out-

breaks. In defiance of the President's proclamation of July 1, 1884, certain introders sought to make settlements in the Indian territory. They were promptly removed by a datachment of troops. During the past session of congress a bill to provide a suitable fireproof build-

ing for the army medical museum and the library of the surgoon general's office re-ceived the approval of the senate. A similar bill, reported favorably to the house of representatives by one of its committees, is still pending before that body, It is hoped that during the coming session the measure may become a law, and that thereafter immediate steps may be taken to secure a place of safe deposit for these valuable collections, now in a state of insecurity.

RIVERS AND HARBORS. The funds with which the works for the nprovement of rivers and harbors were resecuted during the past year were derived from the appropriations of the act of Aug. 2, 1882, together with such few balances as were on hand from previous appropriations. The balance in the treasury subject to requisition July 1, 1883, was \$10.021,649.55. The amount appriated during the fiscal year 1884 was propriated during the issai year 1884 was \$1,319,644.62, and the amount drawn from the treasury during the fiscal year was \$8,228,703.54, leaving a balance of \$5,112,-580,63 in the treasury subject to requisi-tion July 1, 1884.

COAST DEFENSES. The secretary of war submits the report of the chief of engineers as to the practicability of protecting our important cities on the seaboard by fortifications and other on the scaboard by fortifications and other defenses able to repel modern methods of attack. The time has now come when such defenses can be prepared with confidence that they will not prove abortive: and, when the possible result of delay in making such preparation is seriously considered, delay seems inexusable. For the most important cities—those whose destruction or capture would be a national humiliation—adequate defenses inclusive destruction or capture would be a national humiliation—adequate defenses, inclusive of guns, may be made by gradual expenditure of \$60,000,000, a sum much less than a victorious enemy could levy as a contribution. An appropriation of about one-tenth of that amount is asked to begin the work, and I concur with the sere-tary of war in urging that it be granted. LONG RANGE CANNON NEEDED.

The war department is proceeding with the conversion of 10-inch smoothbore guns into 8-inch rifles, by lining the former with tubes of forged steel or of colled wrought iron. Fifty guns will be thus converted within the year. This, however, does not obviate the necessity of providing means for the construction of guns of the highest power, both for the purposes of coast defense and for the ar-

ament of war vessels.
The report of the gun foundry board, appointed April 2, 1883, in pursuance of the act of March 3, 1883, was transmitted to congress in a special message of Feb. 18, 1884, In my message of March 26, 1884, I called attention to the recommendation of the board that the government should encourage the production of private steel works of the required material for heavy cannon, and that two government factories, one for the army and one for the navy, should be established for the fabriation of guns for such material. No subsequently reconvened to determine more fully the plans and estimates necessary for carrying out its recommenda-tion. It has received information which indicates that there are responsible steal manufacturers in this country who, although not provided at present with the though not provided at present with the necessary plant, are willing to construct the same and to make hids for contracts with the government for the supply of the requisite material for the heaviest guns adapted to modern warfare, if a guaranteed order of sufficient magnitude, accountable and proprietation ompanied by a positive appropriation ending over a series of years, shall be made by congress. All doubts as to the feasibility of the plan being thus removed, I renew my recommendation that such action be taken by congress as will enable the government to construct its own ordnance upon its own territory, and so to provide the armaments demanded by onsiderations of national safety and

The Navy. The report of the secretary of the navy exhibits the progress which has been nade on the new steel cruisers authorized by the acts of Aug. 5, 1882, and March 3, 1883. Of the four vessels under contract, the Chicago, of 4,500 tons, is more than half finished; the Atlanta, of 3,000 tons, has been successfully launched, and her mach inery is now fitting; the Boston, so of 3,000 tous, is ready for launching, and the Dolphin, a dispatch steamer of

1,500 tons, is ready for delivery.
Certain adverse criticisms upon the designs of these cruisers are discussed by the secretary, who insists that the cor-rectness of the conclusions reached by the advisory board and by the department has been demonstrated by recent develop-ments in ship-building abroad. The machinery of the double-turreted

onitors Puritan, Terror, and Amphitrite, contracted for under the act of March 3, 1883, is in process of construc-tion. No work has been done during the past year on their armor for lack of the occessary appropriations. A fourth moni-for, the Monaducck, still remains un-finished at the navy yard in California It is recommended that early steps be taken to complete these veprovide also an armament for the monitor Miantonomob.
The recommendations of the naval ad-

visory board, approved by the department, comprise the construction of one steel cruiser of 4,500 tons, one cruiser of sel armed with Hotehkiss cannon, one armored ram, and three torpedo boats. The general designs, all of which are calfrom our commerce the right of favored treatment to which we are entitled by existing conventional stipulations, and ation it treatment to which we are entitled by existing conventional stipulations, and ation it treatment to which we are entitled by existing conventional stipulations, and ation it treatment to which we are entitled by existing conventional stipulations, and ation it treatment to which we are entitled by existing conventional stipulations, and ation it to be whole subject will receive early con-

taken as soon as you shall grant the nec-

THE JEANNETTE VICTIMS. The JEANNETTE VICTIMS,
The ant of congress approved Aug. '7,
1982, authorizing the removal to the
United States of the badies of Lieut.
Comdr. George W. De Long and his companions of the Jeannette expedition. This removal has been successfully ac-complished by Lieuts, Harser are Schuetze. The remains were taken from their grave in the Lena delia in March 283, and were retained at Yakutsk until the following winter, the season being too far advanced to admit of their immediate transportation. They arrived at New York, Feb. 20, 1884, where they were received with suitable honors,

THE RESCUE OF GREELY.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of ongress approved Feb. 13, 1884, a naval expedition was fitted out for the relief of Liout, A. W. Greely, U. S. A., and of the party who had been engaged under his command to scientific observations at Lady Franklin bay. The flect consisted of the steam scaler Thetis, purchased in of the steam scaler Thetis, purchased in Eggland; the Bear, purchased at St. John's, Newfoundland, and the Alert, which was generously provided by the British government. Proparations for the expedition were promptly made by the secretary of the navy, with the active co-operation of the secretary of war. Commander George W. Coffin was placed in command of the Alert and Lines. in command of the Alert, and Lieut, William H. Emory in command of the Boar. The Thetis was intrusted to Com-mander Winfield S. Schley, to whom also was assigned the superintendence of the

was assigned the superintendence of the entire expedition.

Immediately upon its arrival at Upernavik the fleet began the dangerous navigation of Meiville bay, and in spite of every obstacle reached Littleton island on June 22, a fortnight earlier than any vessel had before attained that point. On the same day it crossed over to Cana the same day it crossed over to Cape Sabine, where Lieut, Greely and the other survivors of his party were discovered. After taking on board the living and the bodies of the dead the roller ships sailed for St. Johns, where they arrived on July 17. They were appropriately received at Portsmouth, N. H., on Aug. 1, and at New York on Aug. 8. One of the bodies was landed at the former place. The others were put on shore at Governor's island, and, with the exception of one which was interred in the National concern, were forwarded thence to the destinations indicated by friends. The organization and conduct of this relief expedition reflects great credit upon all who contributed to its success.

RESTORATION OF THE NAVY.

In this, the last of the stated messages that I shall have the honor to transmit to the congress of the United States, I cano strongly urge upon its attention the duty of restoring our navy as rapidly as possible to the high state of efficiency which formerly characterized it. As the long peace that has lulled us into a senso of fancied security may at any time be disturbed, it is plain that the policy of strengthening this arm of the service is dictated by considerations of wise economy, of just regard for our future tranquillity, and of true appreciation of the dignity and honer of the republic.

The Postoffice. The Postoffice.

The Postoffice.

The report of the postmaster general equaints you with the present condition and needs of the postal service.

It discloses the gratifying fact that the less of revenue from the reduction in the rate of letter postage recommended in my message of Dec. 4, 1882, and effected by the act of March 3, 1883, has been much less than was generally anticipated. My recommendation of this reduction was base ommendation of this reduction was based upon the belief that the actual falling off in receipts from letter postages for the year immediately succeeding the change of rate would be \$3,000,000. It has proved to be only \$2,275,000 to be only \$2,275,000.

This is a trustworthy indication that the

revenue will soon be restored to its former volume by the natural increase of sealed

I confidently repeat, therefore, the recommendation of my last annual message that the single rate postage upon drop letters be reduced to one cent wherever the payment of two cents is now required by law. The double rate is only exacted at offices where the carrier system is in operation, and it appears that at those offices the increase in the tax upon local letters defrays the cost not only of its own collection and delivery, but of the collection and delivery of all other mail matter. This is an inequality that ought

no longer to exist.

I approve the recommendation of the postmaster general that the unit of weight n the rating of first class matter should be one conce instead of one-half conce as it now is. In view of the statistics fur-nished by the department it may well be doubted whether the change would result in any loss of revenue; that it would public is beyond dispute.

The free delivery system has been lately applied to five cities, and the total num-

ber of offices in which it is now in opertion is 159. Experience shows that its adoption, under proper conditions, is equally an accommedation to the public and an advantage to the postal service.
It is more than self-sustaining, and for
the reasons urged by the postmaster genoral may properly be extended.

In the opinion of that officer it is im-

portant to provide means whereby excep-tional dispatch in dealing with letters it free delivery offices may be secured by payment of extraordinary postage. This seme might be made effective by employment of a special stamp whom uld be commensurate with the expense of the extra service
In some of the large cities private ex-

press companies have undertaken to out atrip the government mail-carriers by affording, for the prompt transmission of letters, better facilities than have hitherto

been at the command of the postoffice.

It has always been the policy of the government to discourage such enterprises, and in no better mode can that policy be maintained than in supplying the public with the most efficient mail service that with draward testing the public with the most efficient mail service that, with due regard to its ow best interests, can be furnished for its mmodation. The Department of Justice

The atterney general renews the re-commendation contained in his report of last year touching the fees of witnesses He favors radical changes in the fee

bill, the adoption of a system by which attorneys and marshals of the United States shall be compensated solely by sal-aries, and the erection by the government of a penitentiary for the continement of offenders against its laws. The Interior Department.

Of the varied governmental concerns in charge of the interior department, the oport of its secretary presents an inter esting snamary. Among the topics describing particular attention I refer you to his observations respecting our Indian affairs, the pre-emption and timber culture acts, the failure of railroad companies to take title to lands granted by the government, and the operations of the pension office, the patent office, the con-sus bureau, and the bureau of education. Allusion has been made already to the circumstance that, both as between the different Indian tribes and as botween the

Indians and the whites, the past year on one of unbroken peace.
In this circumstance the Presidentia glad to find justification for the policy of the government in its dealing with the Indian question, and confirmation of the views which were fully expressed in his first communication to the forty-seventh

congress. The secretary urges abow the enactment of a statute for the punishment of crimes committed on the Indian reservations, and recommends the passage of the bill now pending in the house of repre-sentatives for the purchase of a tract 15,000 square miles from the Slour res-ervation. Both these measures are worthy of approval.

repeal of the pre-emption law, the enact-nest of statutes resolving the present legal complications touching lapsed grants railroad companies, and the funding of the debt of the several Pacific railroads under such guaranty as shall effectually cure its ultimate payment.

The report of the Utah commission will

I concur with him also in advising the

tion looking to the prevention and punshment of polygamy in that territory. I till believe that if that abominable practice can be suppressed by law it can only be by the most ratical legislation con-sistent with the restraints of the consti-

I again recommend, therefore, that congress assume absolute political control of the territory of Utah, and provide for the appointment of commissioners, with such governmental powers as in its ludgment may justly and wisely be put into their

The Extension of Our Foreign Trade. In the course of this communication coronee has more than once been made to the policy of this government as regard the extension of our foreign trade. It seems proper to declare the general principles that should, in my opinion, underlie our national efforts in this direction.

underlie our national efforts in this direction.

The main conditions of the problem may be thus stated:

We are a people act in mechanical pursuits and fertile in invention; we cover a vast extent of territory rich in agricultural products and in nearly all the raw materials necessary for successful manufacture; we have a system of productive establishments more than sufficient to supply our own demands; the wages of labor are nowhere else so great; the scale of living of our artisan classes is such as tends to secure their personal comfort and the development of those higher moral and intellectual qualities that go to the making of good citizens. Our system of tax and tariff legislation is yielding a revenue which is in excess yielding a revenue which is in excess the present needs of the government. These are the elements from which it is sought to devise a scheme by which without unfavorably changing the condi tion of the workingman, our merchant marine shall be raised from its enfeebled condition and now markets provided for the sale, beyond our borders, of the mani-fold fruits of our industrial enterprises. The problem is complex, and can be solved by no single measure of innovation

The countries of the American conti nent and the adjacent islands are for the United States the natural marts of sup-ply and demand. It is from them that we should obtain what we do not produce or do not produce in sufficiency, and it is to them that the surplus productions of our fields, our mills, and our workshops should flow, under conditions that will equalize or favor them in comparison ith foreign competition.

Four paths of policy seem to point to

this ond.

First, a series of reciprocal commercial treaties with the countries of America which shall foster between us and them an unbampered movement of trade. The conditions of these treatles should be the free admission of such merchandise as this country does not produce, in return for the admission free or under a favored scheme of duties, of our own products— the benefits of such exchange to apply only to goods carried under the flag of the parties to the contract; the removal. n both sides, from the vessels so privi on both sides, from the vessels so privi-leged of all tennage dues and national imposts so that those vessels may ply un-hindered between our perts and those of the other contracting parties, though without infringing on the reserved home consting trade; the removal or reduction of burdens on the experted products of those countries coming within the bene-fits of the treaties; and the avoidance of the technical restrictions and penalties the technical restrictions and penalties by which our intercourse with those countries is at present hampered. Secondly, the establishment of the con-

sular service of the United States on a salaried footing, thus permitting the re-linquishment of consular fees not only inquishment of consular fees not only as respects vessels under the na-tional flag, but also as respects vessels of the treaty nations carrying oods entitled to the benefits of the treaties.
Thirdly, the enactment of measures to

favor the construction and maintenance of a steam carrying marine under the flag of the United States. Fourthly, the establishment of a uni-Fourthly, the establishment of a uniform currency basis for the countries of America, so that the coined products of our mines may circulate on equal terms throughout the whole system of commonwealths. This would require a monotary union of America, whereby the output of the bullion producing countries and the circulation of those which yield neither gold nor silver could be adjusted in conformity with the population, wealth.

in conformity with the population, wealth and commercial needs of each. As man of the countries furnish no bullion to the common stock, the surplus production of our mines and mints might thus be utilized, and astep taken toward the gencral remonetization of silver.

To the accomplishment of these ends, so far as they can be attained by separate been treaties, the negotiations already cluded and now in progress have

directed, and the favor which this larged policy has thus far received war-rants the belief that its operations will ere long embrace all, or nearly all, the countries of this hamisphore. It is by no means desirable, however, that the policy under consideration should be applied to these countries alone. The sealthful enlargement of our trade with Europe, Asia, and Africa should be sought by reducing tariff burdens on such of their wares as neither we nor the other American states are fitted to produce, and

thus enabling ourselves to obtain in re-

turn a better market for our supplies of food, of raw materials, and of the manu-factures in which we excel. It seems to me that many of the am barrassing elements in the great national conflict between protection and free trade may thus be turned to good account— that the revenue may be reduced so as to no longer overtax the people, that pro-tective duties may be retained without becoming burdensome, that our shipping interests may be judiclously encouraged, the currency fixed on firm bases, and above all such an unity of interests established among the states of the American system as will be of great and ever in-creasing advantage to them all. All treaties in the line of this policy

which have been negotiated or are in the process of negotiation contain a provision deemed to be requisite under the clause of the constitution limiting to the house of representatives the authority to origi nate bills for raising revenue.

Civil Service.

On the 29th of February last I trans-nitted to the congress the first annual report of the civil service commission together with communications from the heads of the several executive depart-ments of the government, respecting the practical workings of the law under which the commission had been acting. The good results therein foreshadowed have been more than realized.

The system has fully answered the expectations of its friends in securing competent and faithful public servants and

n protecting the appointing officers of the government from the pressure of per-sonal importunity and from the labor of examining the claims and pretensions of rival candidates for public employment. The law has had the unqualified sup-port of the President and of the heads of the several departments, and the mem-bers of the commission have performed their duties with zeal and fidelity. Their report will shortly be submitted, and will be accompanied by such recommenda-tions for enlarging the scope of the ex-isting statute as shall commend them-selves to the executive and the commis-sioners charged with its administration.

Bankrupt Law. In view of the general and persistent de-mand throughout the commercial com-munity for a national bankrupt law, I hope that the differences of soutiment which have hitherto prevented its enact-ment may not outlast the present session.

The Cholera. The postilence which for the past two coars has been raging in the countries of e east recently made its appearance in European ports with which we are in con tant communication

The then secretary of the treasury, in ursuance of a proclamation of the Presient, issued certain regulations restricting, and for a time prohibiting, the im-portation of rags and the admission of bageage of immigrants and of travelers arriving from infected quarters. this course may have been without strict be read with interest. warrant of law, I approve the recom-it discloses the results of recent legisla- mendation of the present secretary that

the congress take action in the premises and I also recommend the immediate adoption of such measures as will be likely to ward off the dreaded epidemic, and to mitigate its severity in case it shall unhappliv extend to our ar

The District of Columbia. The District of Columbia.

The annual report of the commissioners of the District of Columbia reviews the operations of the several departments of its municipal government. I ask your careful consideration of its suggestions in respect to legislation—especially com mending such as relate to a revision of the civil and criminal code, the performance of labor by persons sentenced to imprisonment in the jail, the construc-tion and occupation of wharves along the river front, and the crection of a suitable

building for district offices, A Pension for Gen. Grant. I recommend that, in recognition of the eminent services of Ulysses S. Grant, late general of the armies of the United States and twice president of this nation, the congress confer upon him a suitable pension Certain of the measures that seem to

me necessary and expedient I have now, in obedience to the constitution, recommended for your adoption.

As respects others of no less importance,
I shall content myself with renewing the
recommendations already made to the
congress, without restating the grounds
upon which such recommendations were
hased.

The Preservation of Forests. The preservation of forests on the pub-The preservation of forests on the public domain, the granting of government aid for popular education, the amendment of the federal constitution so as to make effective the disapproval by the president of particular items in appropriation bills, the onactment of statutes in regard to the filling of vacancies in the presidential office, and the determining of vexed questions respecting presidential inability are measures which may justly receive your serious consideration.

A Graceful Leave Taking.

A Graceful Leave Taking. As the time draws nigh when I am to retire from the public service, I cannot refrain from expressing to the members of the national legislature with whom I have been brought into personal and of-ficial intercourse my sincere appreciation of their unfailing courtesy and of their harmonious co-operation with the executive in so many measures calculated to promote the best interests of the nation.

And to my fellow-citizens generally I acknowledge a deep sense of obligation for the support which they have accorded me in my administration of the executive department of this government.

CHESTER A. WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1884,

WILL NOT TOUCH THE TARIFF. Mr. Morrison Says No Bill Can b

Passed by the Democrats Without Republican Aid. Representative Morrison, in reply to an inquiry last night as to the prospects of

tariff legislation this session, said he had not been able to ascertain the sentiment of members on the subject yet. not tell whether a majority of the membors of either house thought that the taxes should be reduced; how many favored the republican plan of reducing taxation, or how many leaned to the democratic view as to the method of reduction.
"It is impossible," he said, "for me to

say how Mr. Exton, for instance, or Mr. Randall, or the Ohio members feel with regard to this question;" and he added that it might be that there had been some modification of opinion by members since the last session of congress. It was certain that if there had not been some change of views by democratic members no tax re duction could be had except by the aid of

republicans.
The reporter suggested that the question of tax reduction seemed to be one of the questions occupying a large share of public attention at this time.

Mr. Morrison replied that it certainly was the leading question in public estimation, and that it would continue to mation, and that it would continue to hold that place in the minds of the people until a substantial reduction was accomplished. "I do not propose," he added, "to attempt any experiments, but if upon inquiry I find that there is reason to think that a bill proposing a moderate reduction could pass at this session I shall certainly bring in such a bill." In answer to further questioning, Mr. Morrison said that it was not unlikely that the discourse it was not unlikely that the discussion of the legislation necessary to carry the Mexican treaty into effect would open up the general tariff question. The new treaty with Spain in relation to the com-merce of the United States with Cuba and Porto Bico would, he said, be discussed in executive session by the senate, and would not be likely to lead to any open

discussion of tariff questions.

Speaker Carlisle, in reply to a similar inquiry, said that it was not probable that there would be any general tariff legislation at this session. There is not time, he said, and the fact that a new adtime, he said, and the fact that a demo-ministration is about to come in, demo-crats and republicans alike are disin-clined to attempt anything like a gen-cined to attempt anything like a genwill be, he said, some tariff legislation this session, because the question of en-seting the necessary legislation to carry the Mexican treaty into effect will come before the house, and should the senate ratify the treaty with Spain the house will be called upon to enact the legislawill be called upon to enact the legisla-tion necessary to carry that treaty into effect. The discussion of both treaties

will, he thinks, open up the general tariff question and lead to some talk upon it, but to nothing further.

He said that it was possible that some attempts would be made at this session to remedy certain inequalities in the present tariff, but it was too early to predict the result. With respect to any general re-vision, he said that even should they all agree that such a revision should be made. agree that such a revision should be made, when they came to settle upon the details they would find such a difference of opinion that menths would be needed in which to complete the work. He was equally well convinced that nothing would be done in the matter of cutting down the internal revenue taxes, because should such an attempt be made it would precipitate the whole question of tax reduction.

Speaking of the report of the secretary of the treasury Mr. Carlisle expressed satisfaction with the position taken by Mr. McCulloch on the tariff question. As to his recommendation that a now tariff commission should be appointed, Mr. Carlisle said that the present house would not consent that another commission should consent that another commission should be appointed by a republican president,

The Mexican Treaty Bill. At the first opportunity Mr. A. S. Howitt is to call up in the house the bill to put into effect the reciprocity treaty with Mexico. The bill will state what articles are to be admitted into the United States free of duty, as prescribed by the treaty, putting the provisions of the latter into statute. Mr. Hewitt thinks the bill will statute. Mr. Hewitt thinks the pass without much opposition.

Caucus of Republican Senators. After the adjournment of the senate the republican senators met in caucus. A committee was appointed to rearrange the membership of committees, more espec-ially to fill the vacaucies caused by the death of Senator Anthony. The caucus was in session only five minutes.

DEPARTMENT NOTES.

The comptroller of the currency has ap-pointed A. W. Biye, of Syractic, N. Y., to be receiver of the Middletown National bank, of Middletown, N. Y.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints during the week ended Nov. 29 was 1528, 455. The issue for the corresponding per-tion of last year was \$355,457. The comptroller of the currency yesterday extended the corporate existence of the Citisons National bank, of Plitsburg, Pa., and the Natunkeag National bank, of Salem, Mess., to Dec. 3, 1994.

Postoffice inspectors Saturday arrested at Richmond, Va., a substitute postal route agent named Cotton for stealing \$100 belonging to the money-order funds while in transit. The coney was recovered.

The payments made from the treasury by warrants during the month of November, 1884, amounted to \$19,218,148,12, not including payments made on account of the interest of principal of the public debt of the United